

have been trying by might and main to maintain the original schedule that we had set out to maintain to have a daily transcript available within twenty-four hours, so that the transcript of one day's debate would be available on the next day.

We have not spared expense in trying to reach this goal, but it has been utterly impossible of achievement and, as all delegates who have sought copies of the transcript are aware, the transcript has fallen behind. I think the maximum was either thirteen or fifteen days, I am not sure which.

This is due to many problems. One is the simple problem of manpower. We tried at the beginning of the Convention to obtain permission from the Speaker of the House of Representatives in Washington to release for service in this Convention experienced shorthand reporters and stenotype reporters so they could help us maintain the schedule. This permission was refused. The number of such persons available in Baltimore and Washington to gatherings of this sort is limited. Although I think we secured the services of one of the best, if not the best such reporting concern in these parts, both of the gentlemen having had prior experience with the reporting for Congress, it is physically impossible to keep up with two reporters reporting a Convention whose sessions run as long as this Convention's does, this notwithstanding the fact that the transcription of the stenotype reporter's notes is not made by the reporter, but by a stenotype reader who reads the stenotype notes and types it. This means it is a separate person. These persons have worked late into the night, 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00 o'clock, in an effort to have the transcript typed.

The problem of reproduction of the transcript has also been monumental. We started with the idea of having a transcript copy available for every delegate. This so completely tied down our print shop that it was unworkable. We requested delegates not to have copies unless they really wanted them, and thereby we cut in half the number of transcript copies.

Notwithstanding this fact, and notwithstanding the fact that the print shop works unconscionably long hours, they are much further behind in printing the transcript than the stenotype reporters are in making it available. This is, in a sense, a dismal picture. I present it to you because it is a cold, hard fact.

On the other hand, as all of you are aware, the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD is available at 9:00 A.M. every morning for debates the previous day, and I made inquiry as to how this is possible. It is possible, and would be possible for this Convention, and I suppose for the legislature, provided two things: either unlimited or certainly not seriously limited funds; but, more importantly, personnel.

Congress achieves its ability to report transcripts so quickly by having a battery of short hand, not stenotype, reporters on the floor of the Congress. Each reporter while on duty serves seven minutes at a time, and stands within a few feet of the person speaking. When his seven minutes of duty are ended, he retires from the floor to a room adjacent to the chamber where he immediately dictates his notes to a stenographer who immediately transcribes them.

They are returned to the member who made the speech within the hour. He makes such corrections as he deems necessary, and the document, the transcript, is then referred to another group of representatives of the Government Printing Office who are on duty, as I understand it, 24 hours a day. They mark the transcript for the printer. It goes to the Printing Office and is printed that night.

I mention this to point out to you that it is feasible, with the money and with the personnel that the federal government has, to have the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD available immediately. I think our experience in the Convention is of interest to you in considering feasibility so far as the legislature is concerned.

Are there any questions of the Chair before debate?

The Chair recognizes Delegate Rybczynski.

DELEGATE RYBCZYNSKI: Mr. President, I have found that one of the first things that a young lawyer must learn is when to stop his case, and I do not mind telling you that I feel very tempted at this point to stop in my case. I am going to do just that.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Before I say anything, Mr. Chairman, do you want to be recorded for or against this amendment? It would appear to me that the validity of the practice remains unchanged: This cannot be, if I may quote my fellow delegate.